



Maryland Water Monitoring Council  
Maryland Dept. of Natural Resources  
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Clark Howells, Baltimore City DPW.  
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Joel Moore, Towson University  
Diana Muller, MAEOE  
Mat Pajerowski, USGS  
Tom Parham, Maryland DNR

Mike Pieper, KCI Technologies  
Charles Poukish, Maryland Dept. of the Environment  
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Nancy Roth, Versar, Inc.  
Ken Staver, Univ. of MD WREC  
Matt Stover, Maryland Dept. of the Environment  
Chris Swan, Univ. of MD Balto. Co.  
Peter Tango, USGS/Chesapeake Bay Program  
Chris Victoria, Anne Arundel DPW

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### Minutes of the MWMC Board of Director's Meeting Smithsonian Environmental Research Center; Mathias Laboratory July 14, 2015

**In attendance:** *In attendance: Tom Barnum (guest speaker), Dan Boward, \*Kevin Brittingham, Alison Cawood (guest speaker), \*Caroline Donovan, \*Tim Goodfellow, \*Sandy Hertz, \*Clark Howells, Eric Kencel (guest), Shannon Lucas (alternate for Jeff Reagan), \*Richard Mitchell, \*Joel Moore, \*Diana Muller, Matt Ogburn (guest speaker), \*Tom Parham, \*Mike Pieper, \*Nancy Roth, \*Ken Staver, \*Matt Stover, \*Peter Tango, \*Chris Victoria, Don Weller (guest speaker)*

**Not attending:** *\*Jim Caldwell (no alternate), \*Ellen Lathrop-Davis (no alternate), \*Mat Pajerowski (no alternate), \*Charlie Poukish (no alternate), \*Jeff Reagan (Shannon Lucas served as alternate), \*Chris Swan (no alternate)*

\*Board member

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The meeting convened at 10:04 AM. Chairman **Howells** welcomed everyone and asked all in attendance to introduce themselves. Alison Cawood (SERC) introduced the Center's Director, Tuck Hines, who welcomed the Board and briefly discussed the Center, its history, goals, and major projects.

#### Guest Speakers

**Matt Ogburn (SERC)** provided a talk titled *Monitoring River Herring Spawning Habitat Use*. With a focus on the Choptank River, **Matt's** talk addressed river herring life history and threats to spawning. Assessment techniques included visualization, cast nets, Ichthyoplankton studies and environmental DNA. His talk was followed by a good deal of Q and A.

**Don Weller (SERC)** discussed stream buffers and nitrate tracking. His talk was titled, *Cropland Riparian Buffers Throughout Chesapeake Bay Watershed: Spatial Patterns and Effects of Nitrate Loads Delivered to Streams*. His research included sources of nitrate, flow from cropland via buffered and un-buffered riparian areas, estimates of nitrate removal by physiographic province and estimates of Baywide nitrate removal by buffers.

**Tom Barnum (SERC)** gave a talk titled, *Effects of Increasing Impervious Surface Cover on the Trait Diversity of Macroinvertebrate Communities*. Using MBSS benthic macroinvertebrate data, Tom examined several ecological traits and their relationship (or lack thereof) with catchment impervious surface. Much Q and A followed his talk.

**Alison Cawood (SERC)** spoke about *Citizen Science at SERC*. She described eight projects both on SERC property and in the Anacostia Watershed.

All presenters agreed to allow MWMC to post their presentations on the MWMC website. **Action Item – Dan** will follow up on this.

The minutes from the April 14, 2015 Board meeting were approved after one editorial comment from **Peter Tango**.

#### Committee Reports

**Groundwater (Clark Howells reported for Committee Chair Mat Pajerowski)**

The Committee met in May, 2015 and began assembling a preliminary agenda and speaker list for a Road Salt Workshop to be held (tentatively) in mid-October, 2015. The Committee expects about 100 attendees and the Patuxent Wildlife Refuge is being considered as a venue. **Action Item – Clark** will ask **Mat Pajerowski** to further update the Board on Committee activities.

#### Information Management (Tom Parham reporting)

A beta version of the "clickable map" is complete and being reviewed at DNR. **Dan Boward** asks the Board to consider possible names for the map. **Dan** will email a link to the map to the Board once it's ready for review. **Sandy Hertz** and **Caroline Donovan** may develop a way to link watershed organizations to the map.

## **Monitoring and Assessment (Mike Pieper and Chris Victoria reporting)**

The Committee met in May, 2015 to discuss the Road Salt workshop (see above). Other workshops discussed include a series on technology such as continuous monitoring, data collection using smart phones, and sampling design/methods/QC. The Committee will meet again in late August, 2015.

## **Citizen Science and Community Stewardship (Caroline Donovan reporting)**

The Committee revised the text in the by-laws that describes the Committee's goals, etc. The Board voted to accept the changes. **Action Item** – The Committee will complete a list of watershed groups by the end of summer, 2015. The MWMC Facebook page has 163 likes.

## **Student Committee (Caroline Donovan reporting)**

**Diana** Muller announced that she has left the South River Federation and will be working at MAEOE. **Dan** will send the draft Student Poster Award flier to **Caroline** for review. **Joel** Moore suggested that MWMC have a “careers table” at the annual conference. **Mike** Pieper said MWMC could post the actual student posters on the Facebook page and viewers could “like” them. **Clark** said the Student Committee should have one student “liaison” on the Board.

## **Indicators Committee**

No report.

## **Annual Conference (Dan Boward reporting)**

The conference theme has been established – *Protecting the Source – Sustaining Maryland's Waters* and the conference will take place on November 13, 2015. **Rudy** Chow (Balto. City DPW) has been invited to give a plenary talk. **Matt** Stover is still waiting to hear from **George** Hawkins about the other open plenary session spot. Several folks have volunteered to organize sessions on stream restoration monitoring, emerging stressors, monitoring and the ICC, volunteer monitoring, and more. **Kevin** Brittingham has been working with Heavy Seas on the social. Attendance must be capped at 100. Heavy Seas will charge by the beverage. At two per person, the charge will be about \$200. **Mike** Pieper said KCI may be able to cover the cost of the social. **Joel** Moore and **Diana** Muller offered to help with the student poster judging. **Mike** Pieper said KCI may be able to cover the cost of the USB MWMC/KCI logo giveaway.

## **Workshops**

**Road Salt** (see Groundwater Committee report)

**Crowdsourcing and Apps** (Tom Parham)

No report

**Wildlife and Water Quality** (Peter Tango)

No report

Since the meeting was running late, the Board decided to forego the regular news roundtable.

**Sandy** Hertz reviewed the Action Items

Meeting adjourned at 2:09 PM

To end the day, **Alison** Cawood took a few Board members on a brief tour of the Mathias Laboratory Building.

Submitted by **Dan** Boward  
October 20, 2015